

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

D-ZA 4/05

DELEGATION FOR RELATIONS WITH SOUTH AFRICA

MEETING
of

Wednesday, 5 October 2005, from 15.00 to 16.00

Room A5E-2

BRUSSELS

MINUTES

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Annex: Record of attendance

Brussels, 25 October 2005
CC/lo

The meeting started at 15.00 hours with Ms Thomsen in the chair.

1. Adoption of draft agenda (PE 362.425)

The draft agenda was adopted without modifications

2. Adoption of minutes of meetings of 12.05.2005 (PE 358.828)

The draft minutes were adopted without modifications

3. Announcements by the Chair

None

4. Meeting with Ambassadors from the SADC Countries

Ms Thomsen welcomed Ambassadors and Members of diplomatic Missions present, and expressed satisfaction that the invitation had met with such great interest.

She particularly thanked the Ambassador of Botswana, HE Ms Tchenolo Modise, chairing the SADC group, whose Embassy had cooperated in this successful outcome.

In her introduction, the Chair remarked that the European Parliament had consistently supported efforts at regional integration among African countries. The objective of the present meeting was to understand the role and achievements of SADC, as well as the perspectives for its future development, and to discuss possibilities for cooperation.

As possible subjects for discussion, she mentioned ongoing negotiations for the EU/SADEC Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA), as well as the impact on SADEC countries of EU legislation, and in particular the proposed REACH legislation.

In her answer on behalf of the SADEC group, Ms Modise thanked the Delegation for the initiative of organizing the meeting, especially since there was no specific forum for interparliamentary dialogue between the EP and the SADEC countries.

As a subject for discussion, she suggested also food security in the Southern African region.

The following took part in the discussion: Wynn, Gahler, the Ambassadors of South Africa, Malawi, Namibia, Botswana, the Chair, Dowd (Commission).

It was remarked that:

- since Zimbabwe (although invited) was not represented at the meeting, it was not possible to have a comprehensive discussion on the subject;

-the REACH legislation would, probably, be adopted by Parliament in the November plenary. SADEC countries should feel free to inform MEPs about their concerns. SADEC representatives expressed a positive view on certain amendments adopted in committee

- on the EPA, certain issues with regard to SPS (sanitary and phytosanitary) measures and TBT (technical barriers to trade) were still open, but played a crucial role towards deepening regional integration. Negotiations, however, could be considered as "well advanced".

-on food security, the situation in Malawi was identified as an immediate emergency. On top of endemic poverty, the present harvest shortfalls have produced a serious food crisis, with disastrous effects on the whole social framework. Given the production crisis in Zimbabwe, all neighbouring countries were affected, and in particular also Lesotho, Mozambique, Namibia, Swaziland. While South Africa had been of assistance, further emergency food assistance was urgently necessary.

From the European side, the situation in Zimbabwe was defined as a "man-made tsunami". Awareness of this crisis should be raised, and the EU's Delegations should work in this direction. The excessive bureaucratisation of the Delegation's procedures was criticised by the Ambassadors.

With regard to future cooperation, it was agreed that the present initiative should be continued via the appropriate channels. The Southern African Parliamentary Forum was mentioned as a possible interlocutor for the EP. Both sides should try to achieve a "regular interaction".

5. Any other business

None

6. Time and place of next meeting

The next meeting will take place on 16 November, 15.00-16.00 in Strasbourg

The meeting closed at 16.00 hours

**DELTAGERLISTE/ANWESENHEITSLISTE/KATASTASΗ ΠΑΡΟΝΤΩΝ/LIITE RECORD
OF ATTENDANCE/LISTA DE ASISTENCIA/LISTE DE PRESENCE/ELENCO DEI
PRESENTI/PRESENTIELIJST/LISTA DE PRESENÇAS/LÄSNÄOLOLISTA/DELTAGARLISTA**

Til stede	Formandskabet/Vorstand/Προεδρείο/Bureau/Ufficio di Presidenza/Mesa/Puhemiehistö/J.L. Presidium: (*) THOMSEN (1VP)
Anwesend	Medlemmer/Mitglieder/Μέλη/Members/Diputados/Députés/Deputati/Leden/Deputados/Jäsenet/Ledamöter: BARSI-PATAKY, BRADBOURN, KRUPA
Παρόντες	Stedfortrædere/Stellvertreter/Αναπληρωτές/Substitutes/Suplentes/Suppléants/ Membri supplenti/Plaatsvervangers/Membros suplentes/Varajäsenet/Suppleanter: BADÍA I CUTCHET, GAHLER; WYNN
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Art. 178,2	
Art. 183,3	
Endv. Deltog/Weitere Teiln./ Συμμετείχαν επίσης/Also present Participaron igualmente/ Participaient également/ Hanno partecipato altresì/ Andere deelnemers/ Outros participantes/ Muut osallistujat/ Dessutom deltog (Dagsorden/Tagesordnung Pkt/Ημερήσια Διάταξη Σημεί/Point OJ/Punto OG/Agenda Punt/Ordem do dia Punto/punto orden del dia/Esityslist Kohta/ Föredragningslista punkt):	

* (P) = Formand/Vorsitzender/Πρόεδρος/Chairman/Président/Presidente/Voorzitter/Presidente/Puhemies/Ordförande
 (VP) = Næstform./Stellv.Vorsitz./Αντιπρόεδρος/Vice-Chairman/Vice-Präsident/Vicepresidente/VarapuhemiesOndervoorz./
 Vice-Pres./Vicepres/Vice ordförande.

Til stede den/Anwesend am/Παρών στις/Present on/Présent le/Presente il/Aanwezig op/Presente em/Presenteel/Läsnä/Närvarande den.

Efter indbydelse fra formanden/Auf Einladung d. Vorsitzenden/Με πρόσκληση του Προέδρου/At the invitation of the Chairman/Por invitación del presidente/Sur l'invitation du président/Su invito del presidente/Op uitnodiging van de voorzitter/A convite do presidente/Puhemiehen kutsusta/
På ordförandens inbjudan:

Rådet/Rat/Συμβούλιο/Council/Consejo/Conseil/Consiglio/Raad/Conselho/Neuvosto/Rådet: (*)

Kommissionen/Kommision/Eπιτροπή/Commission/Comisión/Commissione/Commissie/Comissão/Komissio/Kommissionen: (*)

Cour des comptes:

C.E.S.:

Andre deltagere/Andere Teilnehmer Επίσης Παρόντες/Also present Otros participantes/Autres participants/Altri partecipanti Andere aanwezigen/Outros participantes Muut osallistujat/Övriga deltagare		BOWLER (Amb. of Malawi); KATJAVIVI (Amb. of Namibia); LUCAS (Amb. of Mozambique); MAVUNGU (Amb. of DR of Congo); MATJILA (Amb. of S.Africa); SERAO (Amb. of Angola) BARRON, MGULE (Emb. S.Africa); DLAMINI, THABO (Emb. Swaziland); KEEJA (Emb. Namibia); MASILO-MOTSAMAII, MOHOBANE (Emb. Lesotho); MORIN (Emb. Mauritius); SOLOFO (Emb.Madagascar); MOLEKO (MFA S.Africa)
Gruppernes sekretariat Sekretariat der Fraktionen Γραμματεία των Πολ. Ομάδων Secretariat political groups Secr. De los grupos políticos Secr. Groupes politiques Segr. Dei gruppi politici Secr. Van de fracties Secr. Dos grupos políticos Puolueyhmiens sihteeristö Gruppernas sekretariat	PPE-DE PSE ALDE Verts/ALE GUE/NGL IND/DEM UEN NI	
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Cab. Du Secrétaire Général		
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Udvalgssekretariatet Ausschubsekretariat Γραμματεία επιτροπής Committee secretariat Secretaría de la comisión Secrétaireat de la commission Segretariato della commissione Commissiesecretariaat Secretaria de comissão Valiokunnan sihteeristö Utskottssekretariatet Assist./Βοηθός		CHICCO DONALDSON

* (P) = Formand/Pres./Πρόεδρος/Chairman/Président/Voorzitter/Puhemies/Ordförande

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(F) = Tjenestemand/Beamter/Υπάλληλος/Official/Funcionario/Fonctionnaire/Funzionario/Ambtenaar/Functionário/Virkamies/Tjänstemann